considered. There is no ground for the assertion that the forests will be overworked, if outside markets are supplied.

SUBJECT No. 134.

Credit sale of forest produce to owners of work-shops on proper security.

Messrs. Rangiengar, Venkatakrishnaiya, Hassan Ali Beg and Madappa, Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Timber and other forest produce may be sold on credit to the owners of work-shops on proper security.

Reply of Government.—This is a matter within the discretion of the Conservator. According to the rules there is no objection to three months' credit being given, if proper security is furnished.

SUBJECT No. 135.

Abolition of grazing fees.

Mr. Lakshminarasimhachar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The levy of grazing fees by the Forest Department causes great hardship to the poor raiyats and their cattle. The difficulties of grazing cattle in forests are better imagined than described. Grazing fees may be abolished and a more equitable treatment of cattle ordered with a view to secure the prosperity and well-being of the raiyats and their live-stock.

It was stated that the representation chiefly referred to the Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Reply of Government.—The grazing fees now levied are not high and no further orders are necessary.

SUBJECT No. 136.

Reduction of hulbanni in State Forests.

Mr S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Hulbanni is now levied at the rates of 4 annas and 8 annas per head of cattle in State Forests. As these rates are high, the old rates of one anna and two annas may be revived. It appears that in the Karadibetta State Forest the inhabitants of some villages are allowed to graze their cattle at the rate of one and two annas per head. This concession may be extended to other villages also, as in the semi-malnad villages have not sufficient gomal land and therefore cattle stray into the State Forests. A reduction of rates will increase the income and lessen the opportunities for fraud on the part of the villagers and the officials.

Reply of Government.—The rates cannot be reduced as ample provision has been otherwise made for the grazing land required for each village.

SUBJECT No. 137.

Grazing rights in State Forests.

Mr. A. Venkatachar, Hole-Narsipur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Formerly grazing was allowed in State Forests on the payment of fees at a fixed rate per head of cattle. The right of grazing is now sold by public auction, and a rich man purchases the right and levies fees from poor raiyats at one rupee a month for allowing their cattle to graze in the forests. As this is a source of great hardship, grazing may be allowed on the payment of the prescribed fees.

Reply of Government.—The system is different from that of levying lumpsum grazing fees in force in the Chitaldrug District. The auctioning of grazing is likely to affect the poorer classes of raiyats. The matter will therefore be referred to the Conservator for consideration as to why the practice should not be put a stop to and fees

levied according to rules on the actual number of cattle grazed.

SUBJECT No. 138.

Feeding charges in forest cattle-pounds.

Messrs. A. Venkatachar, Hole-Narsipur Taluk and Lakshminarasimhachar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The rate of feeding charges in forest cattle-pounds is double that in village pounds. It may be reduced to the rate prevailing in the latter.

Cattle are grazed in the forests and the pound-keeper has not therefore to incur any special expenditure for feeding them as in the case of cattle in village cattle-pounds.

Reply of Government.—The rates were reduced only in 1901. The custody of cattle in forest cattle-pounds is difficult as, if the cattle are taken to graze outside, they generally run back to their villages. The wages of watchers being high, it is not possible to reduce the rates further.

SUBJECT No. 139.

Throwing open Amrut Mahal kavals for cultivation and grazing.

1. Mr. Venkoba Rao, Hole-Narsipur Municipality.
2. Mr. B. Sitaramaiya, Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Raiyats experience much hardship for want of lands for cultivation and for grazing their cattle. Amrut Mahal kavals may therefore be given out for cultivation and certain portions of such kavals may be given out to the raiyats without sale by auction. An upset price of Rs. 25 per acre may be levied and the portions so thrown open may be notified in the Gazette. Such a measure will greatly benefit the poor raiyats.

(2) Amrut Mahal kavals may be thrown open free for the grazing of cattle.

Reply of Government.—(1) Lands which can be made available will be granted for cultivation.

(2) The servegars have certain immemorial privileges regarding the grass which remains after the cattle move on from a kaval. Where the grazing can be auctioned without prejudice to such privileges it is always done.

FINANCIAL.

(*Nos. 140 to 152*).

SUBJECT No. 140.

Famine allowances.

Messrs. Rama Rao, Malur Taluk, Subba Sastri, Chikballapur Taluk, Yagaiyana Subba Rao, Sagar Taluk, and Amble Anniah Pandit, Yedatore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—As the prices of food grains are now very high, a famine allowance may be paid to low paid officials in addition to their pay.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 141.

Commission for exchange of currency notes.

Messrs. T. Venkatappa, Shimoga Taluk; K. Shankarnarayan Rao, Nagar Sabha; Subbrayabhatta and Seshappa, Tirthahalli Taluk; and Subba Chetty, Hassan Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—A commission is charged at 4 annas per Rs. 100 when currency notes are presented in the district and taluk treasuries in the Shimoga and Hassan Districts for being cashed. This practice encourages private money dealers to charge a heavy commission for cashing notes and is against the declaration contained on the face of the notes and makes the public suspicious regarding their intrinsic value. It retards the free circulation of the notes and may therefore be abolished.